



Grafton Conservation Commission

MINUTES of the GRAFTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

December 15, 2015

7:00 p.m.

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A meeting of the Grafton Conservation Commission was held in the School Committee Meeting Room of the Grafton Municipal Center on December 15, 2015. Present were: Co-Chairperson Sandra Brock, Co-Chairperson John Wilson, Heather Trudell, Peter Finn, Kathleen Theoharides, and Conservation Assistant Leah Cameron. Conservation Agent Maria Mast was absent.

Co-Chairperson Sandra Brock opened the public meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Brookmeadow Village Wildlife Corridors – All the lots in the subdivision that contained wildlife corridors included a special condition stating that any corridor that was disturbed must be replanted according to the approved planting plan by November 30 of the same year the disturbance occurred. All of the corridors have been disturbed. As of the December 1, 2015 meeting, only one had been replanted and the replanting was not done in accordance with the approved planting plan. Normand Gamache of Guerriere & Halnon discussed the project with the Commission. He said that since the December 1, 2015 meeting, all but two corridors have been covered with 3-6 inches of leaf litter. Signs have also been installed to demarcate the corridors. The remaining two corridors are full of blasted ledge that needs to be removed. These two corridors will also need to be graded. Mr. Gamache stated that the grading, installation of leaf litter and installation of signs can be completed by March 1, 2016. The Commission consented to this deadline. The deadline of May 30, 2016 still stands for the conservation seed mix and shrubs to be planted in each corridor. Site visits will be necessary to verify the planting layouts in the spring before the plantings actually occur.

Requests for Certificates of Compliance – DEP #s: 164-822, 164-867, 164-847, 164-846 / WP #s: 660, 702, 682, 681 – 22 & 24 Brookmeadow Lane & 11 & 9 Taft Mill Road – The Conservation Agent visited these sites on December 11, 2015. The sites are stable and work is complete. The no-disturb and open space signs were installed as required by the Orders of Conditions. The required boulders along the 25 foot no disturb zone at 11 Taft Mill Road are undersized. The engineer agreed that larger boulders will be placed on future lots in the subdivision. Heather Trudell made a motion, seconded by Kathleen Theoharides, to issue Certificates of Compliance for: 22 Brookmeadow Lane, 24 Brookmeadow Lane, 11 Taft Mill Road, and 9 Taft Mill Road. The motion carried unanimously.

7:15 p.m. – DEP File # 164-904 - NOI, Application for Grafton Wetlands Bylaw Permit # 737, Application for Stormwater Management Bylaw Permit #15-006 – Town of Grafton – 4 & 6 Upton Street (Assessor's Map 74, Lots 89 & 90) (Continuation) - The applicant proposed the construction of a super park with access driveway, parking, and utilities within resource areas. Norman Hill of Land Planning, Inc. discussed the project with the Commission. The Commission received a letter from Graves Engineering, Inc. dated December 14, 2015 which noted that previously requested revisions were made. These included: revised hydrology calculations, addition of a stabilized construction entrance, addition of shoulders along the driveway, addition of an overflow drain near Upton Street, and the addition of notes about avoiding sedimentation on the porous pavement during construction and about cleaning the porous pavement. The proposed driveway width has been reduced from 24 feet to 22 feet. Norman Hill explained that the porous pavement specifications will need to follow Mass DOT (Department of Transportation) M311 and he provided that document for the Commission's review. He chose a depth of three inches for the porous pavement which accounts for a few trucks. The Commission expressed concerns over this depth due to the potential for future development on the remainder of the lot, which would increase traffic flow, especially during construction. Norman Hill said that

with the additional foot of stone and gravel underneath, he does not think that the pavement will be damaged. Co-Chairperson Sandra Brock said that the Commission could include special conditions that future projects on the site need to be reviewed by the Commission or that if a depth of three inches is chosen, no trucks may drive on the pavement. The Commission decided to send a letter to the applicant explaining their concerns about the proposed depth and leave the decision of what depth to choose up to them. Norman Hill explained that he did not provide requirements for the potential installer because he does not want to exclude anyone from the public bidding process. The Commission said that they would like the installer to have three years of experience installing porous pavement. The Commission discussed special conditions requiring copies of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and permit from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the long eared bat habitat if applicable. They discussed a special condition requiring testing of the porousness once the pavement is installed. The proposed stockpile has been moved so that it is now about 50 feet away from the wetland. The Commission requested that the limit of work line be adjusted according to the new stockpile location and that the locations of the no disturb signs be shown on the plans. They also requested signage prohibiting sanding and salting be installed and shown on the plans. Heather Trudell made a motion, seconded by Peter Finn, to continue the public hearing for 4 & 6 Upton Street to January 5, 2016, at the applicant's request. Co-Chairperson Sandra Brock was in agreement. Co-Chairperson John Wilson and Kathleen Theoharides recused themselves.

7:30 p.m. – DEP File #164-906 NOI, Application for Grafton Wetlands Bylaw Permit #739 – Ewen & Faith Cameron – 39 East Street (Assessor's Map 28, Lot 12) – Co-Chairperson Sandra Brock recused herself from this public hearing because she lives nearby. Norman Hill of Land Planning, Inc. presented the project to the Commission. Due to settling and eroding slopes near the home, the applicant proposed the construction of a block retaining wall and patio, as well as a leaching pit for the gutters which are now washing out the yard. Per the Conservation Agent's suggestion, the Commission requested the use of wire backed silt fence in addition to straw wattles for erosion control due to the steep slopes. The Commission also requested that any excavated material be taken off site. There were no questions from the audience. Heather Trudell made a motion, seconded by Kathleen Theoharides, to close the public hearing and issue an Order of Conditions, with the special conditions discussed, for 39 East Street. Co-Chairperson John Wilson and Peter Finn were in agreement. Co-Chairperson Sandra Brock recused herself.

7:45 p.m. – DEP File #164-907 NOI, Application for Grafton Wetlands Bylaw Permit #740 – Jay & Janet Verney – 157 Pleasant Street (Assessor's Map 105, Lot 17) – The applicant proposed a septic system repair consisting of a septic tank and leach field within the buffer zone to a wetland. Mark Farrell of Green Hill Engineering presented the project to the Commission. The failed system will be pumped out and filled. The Commission requested a copy of the receipt showing that pumping was completed. Straw wattles were proposed as erosion control. The Commission requested that the stockpile be located to the north of the proposed work area and that the erosion control be adjusted to include the stockpile. Heather Trudell made a motion, seconded by Kathleen Theoharides, to close the public hearing and issue an Order of Conditions, with the special conditions discussed, for 157 Pleasant Street. The motion carried unanimously.

8:00 p.m. – Request for Determination of Applicability – Ed Deveney – 64 Carroll Road (Assessor's Map 110, Lot 20A) – Peter Finn recused himself from this public hearing since he lives nearby. Since no one was present for this project, Heather Trudell made a motion, seconded by Kathleen Theoharides, to continue the public hearing for 64 Carroll Road until 8:30 p.m. Co-Chairpersons Sandra Brock and John Wilson were in agreement. Peter Finn recused himself.

December 1, 2015 Meeting Minutes – Heather Trudell made a motion, seconded by Kathleen Theoharides, to accept the December 1, 2015 meeting minutes as drafted. Co-Chairperson Sandra Brock and Peter Finn were in agreement. Co-Chairperson John Wilson was absent from that meeting and thus abstained.

Application for Stormwater Management Bylaw Permit #15-008 & Request for Determination of Applicability – Robert & Karen Kell - 207 Providence Road (Assessor's Map 99, Lot 10) – The applicant proposed the construction of a solar array and requested that the Commission determine whether the area and/or the proposed work are subject to the Wetlands Protection Act and/or the Grafton Wetlands Protection Bylaw. They also applied for a Stormwater Management Bylaw Permit. Rich Riccio of Field Engineering Co., Inc. presented the project to the Commission. The project consists of a 0.99 megawatt solar array, access driveway, and two stormwater basins. There is a wetland across the street from the project. Rich Riccio explained that they have increased the number of intermediate rows of erosion control that are proposed. The rows will alternate between hay bales and silt fence. The site edge will consist of both hay bales and silt fence. Erosion control blankets will be utilized on 3:1 slopes. Rich Riccio said that they are still working with National Grid to obtain permission for site access and the EPA to make a determination about the potential long eared bat habitat. They will be improving an existing grass swale on site and connecting it to this work to avoid drainage issues. A copy of the draft SWPPP has been provided and a copy of the final draft will follow. A project estimate was provided as an estimate for a surety bond to be used if needed to hire someone to stabilize the site if work stops. Heather Trudell made a motion, seconded by Peter Finn, to close the public hearing and issue a Stormwater Permit, with special conditions to be voted on at the next meeting, for 207 Providence Road. Co-Chairperson Sandra Brock and Kathleen Theoharides were in agreement. Co-Chairperson John Wilson recused himself. Heather Trudell made a motion, seconded by Peter Finn, to issue a negative determination of applicability for 207 Providence Road. Chairperson Sandra Brock and Kathleen Theoharides were in agreement. Co-Chairperson John Wilson recused himself.

8:30 p.m. – Request for Determination of Applicability – Ed Deveney – 64 Carroll Road (Assessor's Map 110, Lot 20A) – Peter Finn recused himself from this public hearing since he lives nearby. No one was present for this project. The applicant proposed the construction of a handicap accessible bathroom within the riverfront area and requested that the Commission determine whether the area and/or the proposed work are subject to the Wetlands Protection Act and/or the Grafton Wetlands Protection Bylaw. The proposed work is within the existing lawn on the property. The Commission determined that they had sufficient information from the application and the Conservation Agent's report to continue without the applicant present. Heather Trudell made a motion, seconded by Kathleen Theoharides, to issue a negative determination for 64 Carroll Road. Co-Chairpersons Sandra Brock and John Wilson were in agreement. Peter Finn recused himself.

DEP #164-848 – 11 & 13 Potter Hill Road – The applicant submitted revised plans to the Commission for their review. No one was present for discussion with the Commission. The proposed garage and house were moved farther from the wetland. The size of the proposed deck was reduced. The Commission would like to know why the drainage easement changed. Co-Chairperson Sandra Brock made a motion, seconded by Heather Trudell, to take no action and send a letter to the applicant asking about the drainage easement and suggesting they attend the next meeting to discuss this with the Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

Peter Finn made a motion, seconded by Heather Trudell, to adjourn at 8:45 PM. The motion carried unanimously.

Documents discussed located in the Conservation Commission office:

Order of Conditions, Planting Plan, & Violation Letter dated December 2, 2015 for Brookmeadow Village

Requests for Certificates of Compliance & Certificates of Compliance for: 22 & 24 Brookmeadow Lane & 11 & 9 Taft Mill Road

Notice of Intent, Application for Wetlands Bylaw Permit, & Application for Stormwater Management Bylaw Permit for:

4 & 6 Upton Street & Graves Engineering, Inc. correspondence dated 12/14/15

Notices of Intent, Applications for Wetlands Bylaw Permits, Orders of Conditions, & Wetlands Bylaw Permits for: 39 East Street & 157 Pleasant Street

Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2015

Application for Stormwater Management Bylaw Permit, Request for Determination of Applicability, & Determination of Applicability

for 207 Providence Road
Request for Determination of Applicability & Determination of Applicability for 64 Carroll Road
Revised Plans for 11 & 13 Potter Hill Road
Agent's Report to the Commissioners dated December 15, 2015

Minutes drafted by Leah Cameron
Approved on January 5, 2016